

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 272448

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, US, GV

SUBJECT:CBG BOARD MEETING

REF: CONAKRY 2127

1. C.D. WARD INFORMS US THAT DURING CBG BOARD MEETING SOVIET TAX PAYMENTS ISSUE WAS NOT RAISED BECAUSE HALCO'S OTHER MEMBERS DID NOT WISH TO DO SO IN VIEW OF PROBABILITY THAT SOVIETS ARE PAYING AT RATE EQUIVALENT TO HALCO AND ISSUE OF RESIGNATIONS OF FAWCETT AND ARNAUD NOT SETTLED AT THAT TIME. JAOUL WILL PROBABLY ATTEMPT TO RAISE THIS ISSUE PRIVATELY WITH DIAKITE WHEN HE RETURNS TO CONAKRY FOR NOVEMBER 30 BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BE AT KAMSAR.

2. WARD NOTED THAT AT MORNING MEETING WITH KEY CABINET FIGURES AND CBG BOARD, PRESIDENT TOURE IMPLIED THAT RESIGNATIONS OF ARNAUD AND FAWCETT AMOUNTED TO "UNFRIENDLY ACT" AND ASKED THAT IT BE RECONSIDERED. HOWEVER, THAT AFTERNOON
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MOUSSA DIAKITE IN PREPARED REMARKS WISHED JACOBS AND MILLER

WELL IN THEIR NEW FUNCTIONS. WARD BELIEVES THIS ISSUE NOW SETTLED. HE ADDED THAT SHIPLEY HAD BEEN FIRED UPON RETURN.

3. CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENTS DURING MEETING INCLUDE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MEET IN ADVANCE OF CBG

BOARD MEETING, AND HALCO OFFER TO REDO BUDGET REPORTING TO GOG IN EASIER TO UNDERSTAND STYLE FOLLOWING FRENCH ACCOUNTING FORMAT. WARD SAID THAT GOG ALSO INDICATED DESIRE TO REDUCE SIZE OF CBG CONAKRY OFFICE, NOW 150 PERSONS, APPARENTLY BECAUSE THIS LARGE ORGANIZATION FACILITATING ILLEGAL IMPORT OF GOODS INTO CONAKRY.

4. WARD ALSO SAID THAT GOG HAD ASKED THAT CBG SET UP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR TRAINING OF TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE. WARD BELIEVES HALCO PARTNERS SHOULD SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS IF THE TRAINING IS DONE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.

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